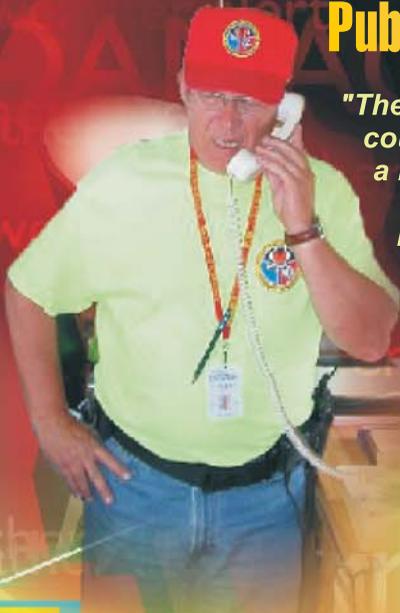


# Responding to any Disaster Requires a Unified Trained Public Health Workforce

**MAY, 2004**  
**tornadoes struck Lancaster County**

*"The May tornadoes tested our county's ability to respond to a large scale natural disaster. The result was a unified command structure that involved emergency management personnel, public health, law enforcement, fire, safety and rescue staff and volunteers! The Health Department staff played a vital role on the unified command team. They knew what had to be done and got the job accomplished."*

*Doug Ahlberg, Director  
Lancaster County  
Emergency Management*



*Public Health Nurses gave over 750 shots for tetanus in Hallam, Norris School and other rural communities.*

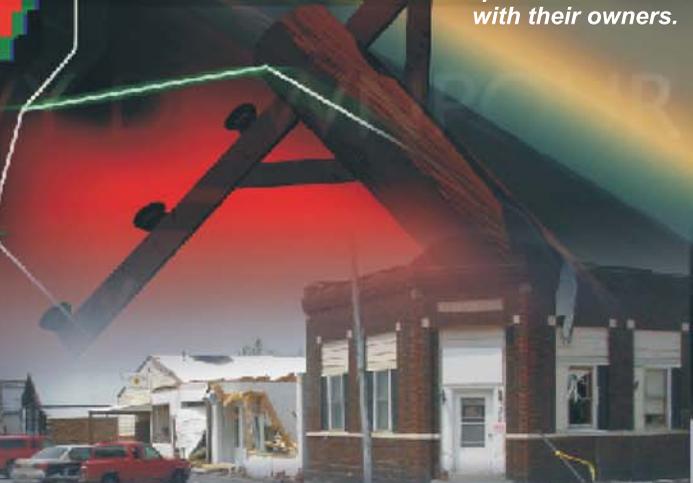


*Animal Control officers picked up over 50 different pets, got them into shelters and helped reunite them with their owners.*

**HAS ISSUED A TORNADO WARNING FOR**



*At least twenty wells, including this old community well in Hallam, were decommissioned.*



*Numerous buildings were inspected for environmental and safety risks.*



*More than 25,000 pounds of hazardous and toxic materials were collected, sorted and removed by public health staff.*

*Extensive training assisted the Health Department staff in a quick and collaborative response to the May tornadoes. Since the events of September 11, the Health Department has taken a more aggressive approach to preparing and responding to any catastrophic event, whether it be man-made or a natural disaster.*